The Interstate Compact

On Educational Opportunity for Military Children

Current as of September 2011

Providing policy, tools, and resources to further enhance the quality of life of service members and their families.

Module 4

Apply Your Knowledge: Compact Case Studies

Presenter's Name
Presenter's Contact Information

Date

This information is provided by the Department of Defense in collaboration with the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission.

Objective

- To give participants the opportunity to apply their knowledge and expand their level of comprehension on the Compact by discussing real-life issues

Instructions

- Everyone will receive a case study. Review your case study individually and formulate a solution to the challenge presented (5 minutes)
- In groups of no more than eight, share your case study and proposed solution (10-15 minutes)
  - *What other solutions can the group identify?*

Case Study 1

A parent comes to you and shares that the school district will not register his/her child using the unofficial records that they brought from a previous school.

What does the Compact say?
How do you assist?

Case Study 2A

After working up the chain from the principal to the superintendant, the parent says the school district refuses to accept an accredited kindergarten student who was born in October because the receiving state's cutoff date is September. The student was enrolled in kindergarten in the previous state because it had a later cutoff date. Even after sharing the Compact language with the district, they will not enroll the student.

What does the Compact say? How do you assist?

Case Study 2B

A school district does not accept a sending state's exit exams and the senior student has been unable to pass the receiving state's exit exam after two tries. The student has enough credits to graduate from the sending school and had passed that state's exam. The current school says it does not have the time or personnel to work with the sending school to get a diploma for the student.

What does the Compact say? How do you assist?

Case Study 3

A school district requires World History in order to graduate. A parent tried to get the school district to waive the course because his/her child took European History in his/her previous school. The receiving district said they would consider waiving the course but needs to see a course description of the class taken. The parent called the counselor at the previous school but has not received a response. Without this wavier, the child will not graduate on time and will have to attend summer school.

What does the Compact say? How do you assist?

Case Study 4

A service member receives orders to move to another state. His/her child is a senior and wants to attend high school in the family's current state so that he/she can qualify for in-state tuition. The student stays in the state with a relative but has to change high schools. The high school will not allow the student to play sports for a year. The high school stated that if the student had come from another state and was covered by the Compact, he/she would be able to begin immediately, but since the student is transferring from within the state, he/she must wait a year.

What does the Compact say? How do you assist?

Case Study 5A

There are no openings in the Advanced Placement (AP) courses for arriving military children at one high school. The principal said there was nothing she could do. The district superintendent agreed with the principal and stated the students would have to wait until the following year or take a non-AP course. This has been true for five students in the first semester.

What does the Compact say? How do you assist?

Case Study 5B

A school district holds its tryouts for fall sports, concert choir, jazz band, dance team, and cheerleading in the spring. Several parents have asked them to consider late tryouts, but the district will not budge. You have shared the Compact language with the district, but the booster club, coaches, and sponsors have gone to the superintendent and argued it would be unfair to hold tryouts solely for military students.

What does the Compact say? How do you assist?

Case Study 5C

Frequent deployments can create a situation where a student wants to take excused absences to spend time with his/her parent after the service member returns. Because the school district has a strict attendance policy and believes that students should be in school unless there is a strong reason not to be, the district consistently denies more than one or two days of excused absences for military students in relation to deployment. Many parents are concerned that their children have received unexcused absences and, in one case, a truancy letter.

What does the Compact say? How do you assist?

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